

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (original) A method of displaying of a medical image, the method comprising the steps of:

- rendering of three dimensional volume data on a display unit,
- selection of a picture element,
- determining a signed distance of a volume element corresponding to the picture element from a reference plane,
- scaling the size of a symbol based on the distance,
- displaying or printing of the scaled symbol at or in the proximity of the selected picture element.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, whereby a minimum symbol size is defined which limits the reduction of the size of the symbol.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~1~~^{or 2} further comprising determining a shortest distance and a largest distance of the displayed picture elements from the reference plane to provide a scale for scaling of the size.

4. (currently amended) The method of ~~elaims 1, 2 or 3~~claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

- changing a view for rendering of the three dimensional image data,
- determining of a second signed distance of the volume element corresponding to the selected picture element from the reference plane,
- rescaling of the size of the symbol based on the second distance,
- displaying or printing of the rescaled symbol at or in the proximity of the picture element.

5. (original) Computer program product, in particular digital storage medium, comprising computer program means for performing the steps of:

- rendering of three dimensional image data on a display unit,
- selection of a picture element,
- determining a distance of a volume element corresponding to the picture element from a reference plane,
- scaling the size of a symbol based on the distance,
- displaying or printing of the scaled symbol at or in the proximity of the selected picture element.

6. (original) Computer system for processing of medical image data comprising:

- means for rendering of three dimensional image data on a display unit,
- means for selection of a picture element,
- means for determining a distance of a volume element corresponding to the picture element from a reference plane,
- means for scaling the size of a symbol based on the distance,
- means for displaying or printing of the scaled symbol at or in the proximity of the selected picture element.

7. (original) The computer system of claim 6 further comprising means for determining a shortest distance and a largest distance of the displayed picture elements from the reference plane to provide a scale for scaling of the size.

8. (currently amended) Computer system of ~~claims 6 or 7~~claim 6 further comprising:

- means for changing a view for rendering of the three dimensional image data,

- means for determining of a second distance of the volume element corresponding to the selected picture element from the reference plane,
- means for rescaling of the size of the symbol based on the second distance.

9. (original) Medical imaging system comprising:

- means for three dimensional medical image data acquisition,
- means for means for rendering of three dimensional image data on a display unit,
- means for selection of a picture element,
- means for determining a distance of a volume element corresponding to the picture element from a reference plane,
- means for scaling the size of a symbol based on the distance,
- means for displaying or printing of the scaled symbol at or in the proximity of the selected picture element.